

# Press Release

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## Explore Park Opens River, Lake & Trail Access Site

On Wednesday, October 10, Explore Park will officially open a new and improved river, lake and trail access at Rutrough Point, located at the end of Rutrough Road in Roanoke County. The site is at the confluence of the Roanoke River and Back Creek.

A ribbon cutting will be held at 5:30 pm on October 10th at the site.

The newly developed access includes a new parking lot for twenty vehicles, new steps down to the water, an informational kiosk with a trail map and a driveway to off-load smaller john-boats.

In addition, Explore Park has completed work on erosion control water-bars to address runoff.

This location is well-known for boating, fishing, hiking, bird-watching and mountain biking.

Day use will be at \$2 per person or \$20 per year, with fees going to pay for current and future improvements at the site. This is the same amount charged at Carvins Cove for its access.

The Rutrough Point area has often been the scene of numerous parking over-loads as boaters, fishermen, mountain bikers and hikers jammed the small cul-de-sac at the end of Rutrough Road. The new parking lot should allow greater use of the area's attractions.

The site was developed under Explore Park's new Plan B concept, which calls for incremental, business-like improvements done in the least expensive way possible.

The improvements were made possible by donations of time and materials from businesses and non-profits, including Float Fishermen of Virginia, Lanford Brothers, King Trucking, Friends of the Rivers of Virginia, Boxley Quarries, Berglund Automotive and Boy Scout Troop 540 in Chamblissburg.

Explore plans additional improvements to the park that will allow better access and use by the public.

For additional information, contact project supervisor and Explore Park board member, Bill Tanger, at cell 540-266-0237 or at [bill.tanger@verizon.net](mailto:bill.tanger@verizon.net) . Or contact Debbie Pitts, Executive Director, at 540-890-2195 or [debipitts@b2xonline.com](mailto:debipitts@b2xonline.com) .

